

INFORMATION SECRET PORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Lebanon/Israel

DATE DISTR. 18 Jan 1949

SUBJECT Immigration of Armenian Workers to Israel

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE [REDACTED] 25X 1A

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO. [REDACTED] 25X1C

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

1. Certain Armenians and Arabs from Palestine, including Bedros Aramian, Hrant Iskenderian, Panos Kuyumjian, Muhammad 'Ali Salti, and Ibrahim Ni'aimi, are active in Armenian circles in Syria and Lebanon, particularly among Communist and Hinchak groups, urging them to emigrate to Israel.
- Comment. Panos Kuyumjian was reported in March 1948 by another source to be the leader of a group of Armenians who entered Israel to fight with Jewish Communists.

In April 1948 Kuyumjian was reported to have returned to Beirut, after having helped to smuggle a large group of Armenian Communists into Israel. At this time he was seen in the offices of a certain Mantelle of the French Legation in Beirut. [REDACTED] In mid-June 1948 Kuyumjian was again reported to be back in Beirut and Damascus, recruiting more Armenian Communists for the Zionist forces. [REDACTED] These men point out that the Jews need workers to replace Arabs who have left Zionist-occupied territories, and have promised to give the Armenians land set aside for agricultural and residential purposes. [REDACTED]

2. According to source, this propaganda has had great effect on Armenians in Syria and Lebanon, and more than three hundred Armenians from Syria have gone secretly, disguised as Arabs, to Israel; about fifty more Armenians are eager to go.

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